

Of Confederate Field Officers, Only Ten Generals Now Survive

BATTLE ABBEY TO BE OPEN DURING REUNION

Veterans Will Have Opportunity to View Beautiful Confederate Memorial Institute.

HISTORY OF ITS ERECTION

Conceived Originally in Brain of Charles Broadway Rouse, Who Gave \$100,000 Towards It—Completion Awaits Artist's Return.

One of the many significant and interesting features which will mark reunion week in Richmond will be the fact that the Confederate Memorial Institute will be thrown open for inspection for the first time. The building, which when completed will be the pride of the whole South, will be open through the three days of the reunion. There will be no formal exercises of opening or dedication by reason of the fact that the structure has not yet been completed in all of its appointments. It will simply be open during the days that the reunion is in progress, so that the veterans and other visitors to Richmond for this momentous week will have an opportunity to see it and to get some conception of what it will be when the work of the artist and decorator has been added to the excellent results already attained by the designer and architect.

At this time when the eyes of the whole South are, in a measure, turned on the building, and in view of the fact that it forms a very important part of the collection of permanent memorials of the great struggle of the sixties, it seems especially appropriate that some account be given of the history of the movement for the building and of what is in the mind of the chief promoters of the undertaking for the completion of this ambitious project. The building is the result of the great moving drama of war events of fifty years ago.

SITE OF FIVE ACRES GIVEN BY STATE OF VIRGINIA

The Confederate Memorial Institute, or, as it is more popularly known, the Battle Abbey, is located on the Boulevard, between Stuart Avenue and Kensington Street. It occupies the center of a park of five acres—the gift of the State of Virginia. The structure stands 150 feet back from the Boulevard, a raised stage designed to give it an elevated position and a suitable approach to the building. A broad flight of stone steps leads from the lower level to the terrace, flanked on either hand by a stone balustrade.

The terrace is a wide, open space, twenty-five feet from the building and eight feet above the lower level is continued around the ends of the building, giving access to the grounds in the rear.

The building, which is faced throughout with Indiana limestone, consists of a central pavilion with a wing on either side, having a total length of 150 feet and a height from the terrace level to the top of the parapet of forty-four feet.

MEMORIAL ROOM WILL BE MOST BEAUTIFUL IN SOUTH

The hall in the south wing of the building will be known as the Memorial room, and it has been the ambition of the trustees to make the room the most beautiful in the South, this having been made possible by the generosity of Thomas P. Ryan, of New York and Virginia.

The architect, Charles Hoffbauer, a distinguished French artist, was engaged for the decoration of the walls of this room with military paintings illustrative of the war. It was hoped that this work would have been completed in time for the reunion, but when the war in Europe broke out, Mr. Hoffbauer was called to his colors and promptly left to join his regiment in Paris.

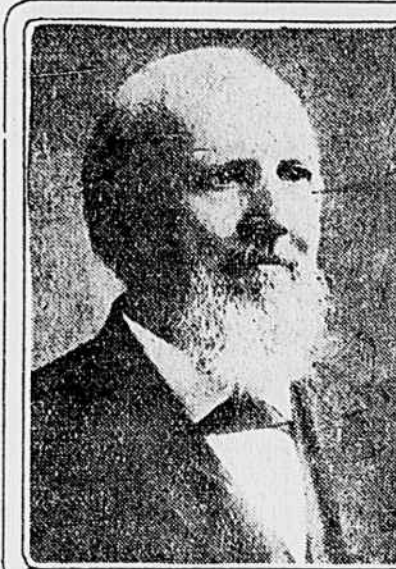
Mr. Hoffbauer had only just begun his work when called back to Europe, and it is necessary in a very incomplete state, but the trustees thought that the visiting veterans would like to see the work—even though incomplete—of a man who like themselves, promptly obeyed the call of his country when threatened with invasion by a foreign foe. When the paintings by Mr. Hoffbauer are completed they will not be exceeded in value or beauty by any similar memorial mural paintings in this country.

WISDOM OF CHOICE OF ARTIST IS CONFIRMED

The wisdom of the trustee in selecting the eminent French artist has been recently confirmed by his appointment by the French government to make battle pictures for the portrayal of future generations of the French of some of the momentous occurrences now transpiring in the war arenas of Europe.

The north wing of the building will be used for a library, beautiful oak cases for the books having already been put in place. It is the further intention of the trustees to place on the north wall of the library wing of the building a great painting of Jefferson Davis and his cabinet, and, in addition, to have shown there the portraits of all the war governors. It will be the aim of the association, according to announcement to make the collection of pictures and books in the library of the Memorial Institute of great historic value, one which in years to come will be used by all students who desire to know the true history of the greatest struggle of the South for constitutional freedom.

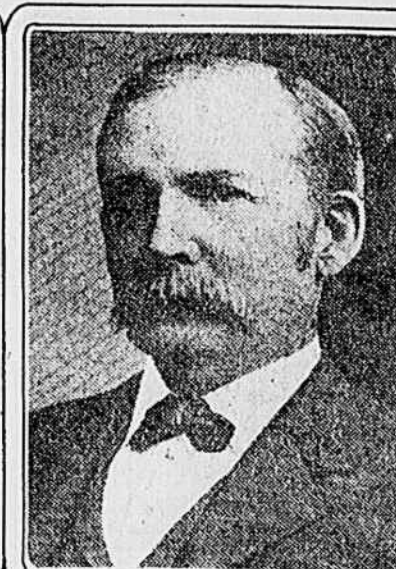
Following is a list of the officers and trustees who will attend the reunion and be present during the opening of the Memorial Institute. The first open for the inspection of the public: J. Taylor Ellyson, president and trustee; Judge George L. Christian, treasurer and trustee; General Robert White, of West Virginia; General Julian S. Carr, of North Carolina; General E. H. Tamm, of South Carolina; General D. M. Hayles, of Oklahoma; General W. J. Behan, of Louisiana; General W. C. Ruffin, of Arkansas; Colonel J. M. Hickey, of Washington, D. C.; General John B. Stone, of Missouri; former United States Senator Samuel P. Cox, of Maryland; General A. C. Tripp, of Maryland; Rev. R. M. C. Bryde, of Kentucky. A meeting of the



Brigadier General Francis M. Cochrane



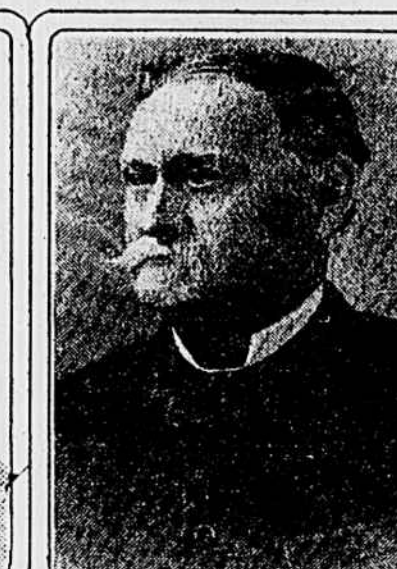
Brigadier General William McComb



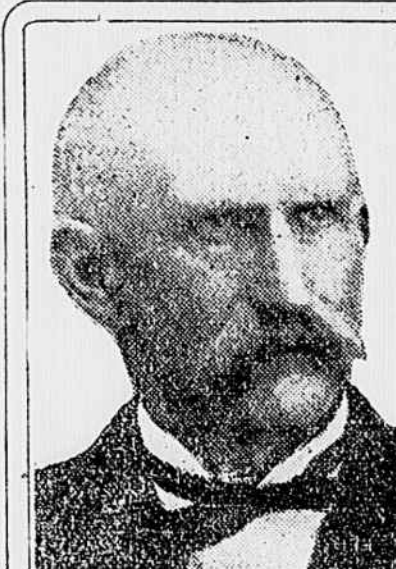
Brigadier General Wm. Ruffin Cox



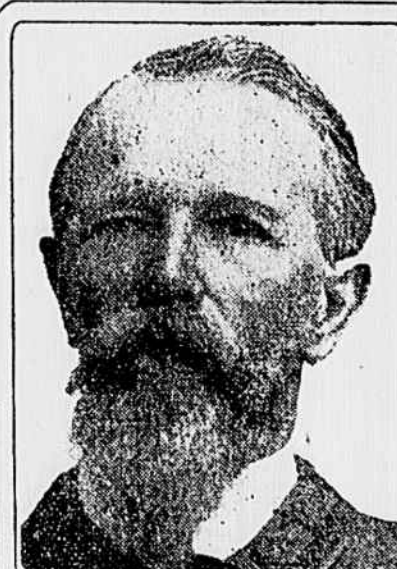
Brigadier General G. W. Ferguson



Brigadier General Marcus T. Wright



Brigadier General John McCausland



Brigadier General E. M. Law



Brigadier General Roger A. Pryor



Brigadier General Felix H. Robertson



Brigadier General Basil W. Duke

trustees has been called for to-morrow night, May 31, at the residence of Lieutenant-Governor Ellyson, 10 East Franklin Street.

The building committee is composed of J. Taylor Ellyson and Judge George L. Christian, of Virginia, and General Robert White, of West Virginia; Colonel T. S. Kenan, of North Carolina, who also was a member of the building committee, died some years ago.

IDEA OF BUILDING CONCEIVED BY CHARLES BROADWAY ROUSE

The Memorial Institute was conceived in the mind and heart of Charles Broadway Rouse, the Virginian who became one of the merchant princes of New York. In an address delivered in Richmond at the laying of the cornerstone of the building, May 20, 1912, General Robert White, of West Virginia, said of the connection of Charles Broadway Rouse with the building:

"The purpose to build a Memorial Hall was first conceived in the mind of that big-hearted soldier of the South, Charles Broadway Rouse, and it was in the beginning familiarly known as the Battle Abbey. I personally knew Mr. Rouse long before the war, when he first commenced business in Winchester. I knew him as a gallant and brave private soldier in the Twelfth Virginia Cavalry. I knew him well after the war, from the time he established himself in business in the city of New York where he succeeded so well, and where he became one of the princely merchants of that great city. I knew him well after his blindness came upon him, and I remember how bright and cheerful he was notwithstanding that he was cut off from the light and beauty of the beautiful world, which a born man of business with a wonderfully quick and active brain. He was a brave soldier of the South, whose cause he loved, and for which he was willing to die with the best of us. He was a man with a big heart and so true to his native State should have thought to suggest the erection of this memorial structure of the heroes and heroes of the Southland, which was always so dear to him."

It was at the reunion of the veterans that was held in Houston in 1895 that Mr. Rouse made his proposition to give the erection of a memorial hall for the people of the South would raise an equal amount. The proposition was promptly accepted and there was appointed a committee of one from each division of the United Confederate Veterans to do whatever they might deem necessary and proper for securing the funds to carry out the plans suggested by Mr. Rouse.

COMMITTEE MEETS WITH MR. ROUSE'S REPRESENTATIVE

The committee met in Atlanta October 15 of the same year of its appointment, and met there with it was Colonel A. T. Dickinson, the representative of Mr. Rouse. Sessions of the committee were held for three consecutive days, the members of the body carefully going over the plans submitted by Mr. Rouse, and approving them substantially without change. The committee also recommended that a charter be taken out and a circular letter addressed to the people of the South asking for contributions to the building fund. As a result of the circular letter of appeal the sum of \$7,000 was raised.

The committee appointed in 1895 made its report at the session of the United Confederate Veterans that was held in Richmond in 1896. The following, most of whom are now dead, were appointed charter members and trustees of the Memorial Association: Colonel John B. Carr of Virginia; Colonel Robert White, of West Virginia; Colonel Thomas S. Kenan, of North Carolina; Colonel B. H. Teague, of South Carolina; General J. B. Briggs, of Kentucky; General Clement A. Evans, of Georgia; J. S. Chatham, of Louisiana; J. B. McIntosh, of Mississippi; John O. Coker, of Oklahoma; General W. H. Jackson, of Tennessee; Captain John A. Hickey, of Washington, D. C.; Colonel W. D. Chipley, of Florida; General John Gill, of Maryland; A. S. Ashby, of Missouri; William P. Campbell, of Arkansas; L. S. Ross, of Texas; D. M. Hayles, of Indian Territory; Colonel A. T. Dickinson, of New York; the representative of Mr. Rouse, was also made one of the original trustees. A charter was obtained from the State of Mississippi in August, 1896. It provided that the Confederate Memorial Association should be under the auspices of the United Confederate Veterans, and directed the appointment of an executive committee, with power to act for the association in the management and details of its business. The board of trustees met at Lookout Mountain, Tenn., selected General W. D. Chipley, of Flor-

ida, president, and designated a bank in Nashville, Tenn., as its depository.

The board of trustees, under the charter, was required to meet annually at the place of meeting at which the United Confederate Veterans should hold their conventions, and these meetings have always been held. The executive committee was composed of General W. H. Jackson, of Nashville, Tenn., chairman; General J. B. Briggs, of Kentucky; Colonel John B. Carr, of Virginia; Colonel Robert White, of West Virginia, and of the committee the president of the association was ex-officio also a member. An idea of the enthusiasm with which the committee entered upon its task, may be had from the remark of General W. H. Jackson, its chairman, who said: "I would rather be chairman of our executive committee to build such a memorial hall than to be president of the United States." Of the executive committee only General White, of West Virginia, is now surviving.

LITIGATION CAUSES DELAY IN STARTING BUILDING

Owing to litigation arising from the proposed transfer of the building fund from Nashville to Richmond, and from other differences which arose, there was prolonged delay in getting work on the building started. This delay, while regrettable in many ways, proved helpful in that it enabled the accumulation of additional funds in the form of interest earned on money on deposit, permission having been given

under the charter to use the interest on the principal sum for general expenses.

Finally the litigation was disposed of favorably to the needs of the building and the way paved for the beginning of active preliminaries for the erection of the structure. Messrs. Bissell and Sinkler, of Philadelphia, well-known architects, were employed to prepare plans for the building. The building committee felt that it was its duty to make the best choice of architects and contractors that it could for the interest of the memorial building, regardless of where the architects or contractors should be located. After the selection of the Philadelphia firm of architects, however, there was decided satisfaction to find that one member of the firm, Mr. Sinkler, was a son of an officer of the Confederate Navy. By a similarly interesting coincidence it developed that Mr. White, of the firm of Metzger & Wells, also of Philadelphia, the contractors who built the building, was also a son of a Confederate soldier.

Ground was broken for the building on January 1, 1912, the first spadeful of dirt being cast by Eppa Hunton, III, the grandson of General Eppa Hunton, and J. Taylor Ellyson, of Virginia, the grandson of Lieutenant-Governor Ellyson. The cornerstone was laid on May 20, 1912. When the edifice will be finally completed will depend on when Charles Hoffbauer, the architect, will get back to this country for the trustees have fully made up their minds to wait for Mr. Hoffbauer rather than give the work to another. So, unless the artist loses his life in the war, or the war is prolonged beyond all reasonable anticipation, the final completion of the Memorial Institute will await his return.

Two Richmond men have had a distinguished part in the activities that have culminated in the erection of this splendid building. They are Judge George L. Christian and Lieutenant-Governor J. Taylor Ellyson. Some idea of the fidelity and thoroughness with which they have discharged their duties will be gathered from what General Robert White had to say of them in his address three years ago on the occasion of the laying of the cornerstone. "I feel it a sacred duty," he said, "to testify to the faithfulness and labors of my fellow committeemen, Lieutenant-Governor J. Taylor Ellyson and Judge George L. Christian, without whose efficient aid and work we never could have erected this memorial institute. Lieutenant-Governor Ellyson came into our committee at Atlanta in 1894 and ever since has labored, toiled and striven for the accomplishment of our noble purposes, and Judge Christian, without money and without price, has been and is still our splendid treasurer and faithful adviser, ever joining with us heart and hand in working out our grand design. To them our association owes a debt of gratitude which never can be paid, and to their memories it seems to me Richmond should erect monuments to stand throughout future generations."

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In round numbers about \$150,000 has been expended on the building, and the ground, out of the original \$200,000 donated, of which Mr. Rouse gave \$100,000, the city of Richmond \$50,000 and various other individuals and organizations the remainder, there remains something like \$50,000. This will be added to a source of income for the maintenance of the building.

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